

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 42 and 43 have been amended. Claims 42 and 43 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 42 and 43 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukamoto et al. (US 2002/0048033) (hereinafter "Tsukamoto") in view of the Applicants Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter "AAPA") and further in view of Kanno (US 6,252,609) (hereinafter "Kanno") and Okubo (US 2003/0058471) (hereinafter "Okubo").

Claims 42 and 43

Claim 42 recites: "...wherein if the driver program is not stored in the internal storage unit, the processor displays a message for indicating error, and then, when a memory card in which the device driver is stored in a plug-in form is installed in the second interface, the processor displays a selectable menu through the operation panel unit, and if the menu is selected, then the processor drives the interface card using the device driver."

The Office Action relies on Tsukamoto to show this feature of claim 42, and specifically relies on paragraphs [0115] – [0131] and [0171] – [0181] of Tsukamoto.

Tsukamoto discusses that a modem 118 and a Network Control Unit (NCU) 119 may be omitted in the following cases: (1) if a modem card with an NCU capable of replacing the function of the modem 118 and the NCU 119 is set into the card slot 121 (or 122); (2) if the ROM 102 or the RAM 103 or a storage enabled card, such as a memory card or a hard disk card, set in an empty card slot 122 (or 121) stores a program for controlling the modem card with the NCU and data; and (3) if the CPU 101 is able to use the foregoing control program and the data. Tsukamoto, paragraph [0117] and Figure 26 (Emphasis Added).

Tsukamoto further discusses, with reference to Figure 40 of Tsukamoto, that if the software, which is being used, cannot be adapted to the set card, this fact is notified to the OS 1710 through the external interface control module 1724 and the module controller 1712. The OS 1710 performs display on the display portion 1051 to urge the user to perform a required process, such as change of the corresponding program IC card or another card. Tsukamoto, paragraph [0174] and Figure 40.

The present application as recited in claim 42 is characterized in that i) driving an interface card using the driving program of a memory card in response to the memory card being inserted when there is no driving program for the interface card; and ii) providing a menu for selecting an execution of a plug-in program in the memory card, and driving the interface card using the plug-in program in response to the plug-in program being selected from the menu. As shown above, it is respectfully submitted that these features are clearly not discussed or obviated by Tsukamoto, and further, the present invention as recited in claim 42 could not have been easily made by one of ordinary skill in the art based on the cited references, including Tsukamoto, the AAPA, Kanno and Okubo.

Amended claim 43 recites: "...wherein if the driver program is not stored in the internal storage unit, the processor displays a message for indicating error, and then, when a memory card in which the device driver is stored in a plug-in form is installed in the second interface, the processor displays a selectable menu through the operation panel unit, and if the menu is selected, then the processor drives the interface card using the device driver."

Claim 43 is believed to be allowable for similar reasons as claim 42.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 42 and 43 patentably distinguish over Tsukamoto, the AAPA, Kanno and Okubo.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is requested.

CONCLUSION

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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